



Hawai'i Primary Care Association

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House Committee on Health

The Hon. Ryan I. Yamane, Chair

The Hon. Scott Y. Nishimoto, Vice Chair

Testimony in Support of House Bill 2208

Relating to Insurance

Submitted by **Beth Giesting, Chief Executive Officer**

January 29, 2010 9:30 a.m. Agenda, Room 329

The Hawai'i Primary Care Association supports this measure, which ensure that Med-QUEST providers are paid promptly for their services upon submission of a clean claim. It appears necessary to advance this legislation both because:

- Recent experience with the QExA plans revealed wide-spread problems with prompt and accurate payments; and
- Providers who serve Med-QUEST patients should be rewarded with prompt payment for participating in a public insurance program that pays them less than other insurers do.

Having offered our support for this measure, it is important to note that the Med-QUEST Administration is lagging payments to the Plans due to the State's economic condition. This makes it extremely problematic to force the Plans to provide timely payments for their obligations when the State is deficient in its own.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify in support of this very important bill.